Numb. 4081

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Monday December 18. to Thursday December 21. 1704.

By the QUEEN,

A PROCLAMATION,

For Encouraging Seamen and Landmen to Enter themselves on Board Her Majesties Ships of War.

ANNE R.

WHereas it is Our Royal Intention to give all due Encouragement to all such Seamen and Able-Bodied Landmen, who shall voluntarily Enter themselves in Our Service, and Remain on Board Our Ships of War in Our Royal Navy, We have thought fit (by and with the Advice of Our Privy Council) to Publish this Our Royal Proclamation; And We do hereby Promise and Declare, That all such Seamen and Able-Bodied Landmen, (not above the Age of Fifty five Years, and not under the Age of Sixteen Years) who between the Twentieth Day of this Instant December, and the Eleventh Day of February next, shall Voluntarily Enter themselves in Our Service, either with the Officers of Our Ships of War, Fire-Ships or Bomb-Vessels, who are or before that time shall be in Sea-Pay, or with any Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any Town, or with any Vice-Admiral, or other Commission-Officer, to Serve on Board any of Our said Ships or Vessels, shall Receive as Our Free Gift and Royal Bounty, the respective Rewards and Allowances following; That is to say, Every such Seamen Two Months Pay, and every such Able-Bodied Landman One Months Pay, to be paid to them respectively by the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Our Navy, before the respective Ships, on which they shall be, do Proceed to Sea. And whereas upon the Humble Address of the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses of the House of Commons, lately Presented unto Us, We have been Graciously Pleased to Declare, That We would give, and accordingly have given Directions for the Bestowing of Our Royal Bounty upon the Seamen and Landmen who Behaved themselves so Gallantly in the late Actions both by Sea and Land; We do hereby Promise and Declare, That all such Seamen and Able-bodied Landmen, (who were in Our Service on Board Our Fleet in the late Engagement off Cape Malaga in the Mediterranean, and have since been Discharged) as shall before the said Eleventh of February next, Voluntarily Re-enter themselves in Our Service, with any Our Officers or Magistrates, as aforesaid, shall be Entituled to Partake of our said Royal Bounty, for such their Behaviour in the said late Engagement, as well as others that were therein Engaged, and have not since been Discharged, but have Continued in Our Service, over and above Our said Free Gift and Royal County first herein before-mentioned, and intended for such as shall, before the said Eleventh of February next, Voluntarily Enter themselves in Our Service, as aforesaid. And We do hereby Require and Direct, That if any such Seamen, or Able-Bodied Landman, shall, within the Time before-mentioned, Enter himself with any Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any Town, or with any Vice-Admiral, or other Commission-Officer, to Serve on Board any of Our Ships of War, or other Vessels before-mentioned, such Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate, Vice-Admiral, or other Commission-Officer respectively, shall give to each Man so Entring, a Certificate under his Hand and Seal, without Fee or Reward, of his Entry, and the time of such Entry, and for what Ship, and shall thereby limit such a Number of Days (not exceeding Fourteen Days) as may be necessary for his repairing on Board such Ship, or any other Ship or Bomb-Vessel in Our Service, at the next Port. And We do hereby Declare, That all such Seamen, and Able-Bodied Laudmen, who within the Time aforesaid, shall Enter themselves, as aforesaid, and within the Time Limited and Appointed in such Certificate, Repair on Board any of Our said Ships or Tenders appointed to Receive them, (according to their respective Qualifications aforesaid, and not otherwise) shall be Entituled to Our Royal Bounty herein before-appointed, and intended for them respectively, and their Pay from the Time of their first Entring with such Justice of Peace, or other Officer, as aforesaid; And that they, and also such who shall so Enter themselves within Twelve Days after the Tenth of February next, shall be allowed Time (without Molestation) to render themselves on Board Our Ships of War: and therefore We do hereby Require and Command all Captains Commanding any of Our Ships of War, or other Our Ships aforesaid, and all other Persons whatsoever, Authorized or Impowered to Impress Mariners for Our Service, That they do not Impress any such Seamen, or Able-Bodied Landmen, to whom such Certificate, as aforesaid, shall be given, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Our Royal Proclamation, or any Men now in Our Service, who by Tickets Signed by any of Our Flag-Officers, have or shall have Leave to be Absent from their Duty to the said Seventh Day of February next, before they shall fail to Enter themselves on Board such of Our said Ships or Vessels, on which they shall Enter themselves to Serve, or to which they shall Belong, according to the time limitted by such Certificates or Tickets; nor any Person or Persons Protected or Employed in the River or on the Coasts, by the Commissioners of Our Navy, Ordnance, Victualling, Customs or Transportation, the Watermen in Our Service, or the Service of Our Most Dear Consort. And to the end We may be truly informed what Persons shall Enter and Render themselves to Serve on Board Our Fleet, in pursuance of this Our Royal Proclamation, We do hereby Require and Command Our respective Captains Commanding any of Our said Ships of War, or other Our Ships or Vessels aforesaid, and also all Justices of the Peace, Chief Magistrates, Vice-Admirals, and other Commission Officers aforesaid, respectively, to Transmit to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Our Navy exact Lists and Accounts of the Names, Ages and Discriptions of the Persons who shall Voluntarily Enter themselves with them, and the Time when, and Place where, and for what Ship, and of the Time which shall be allowed them respectively for Rendring themselves on Board, and of the Time of their respective Repairing on Board any of Our said Ships. And We do hereby Command and Require the said Seamen and Landmen to Repair on Board their respective Ships on which they shall so Enter themselves, or to which they shall Belong, within the Time limited by such Certificates or Tickets, on Pain of Our Highest Displeasure. And We are also Graciously Pleased to Declare, That Conduct-Money, according to the Practice of the Navy, shall be allowed to all such Seamen and Landmen so Voluntarily Entring themselves on Board, according to the true meaning of this Our Royal Proclamation. And for Preventing of any Deceits or Abuses which may happen by any Person or Persons leaving the Ships to which they belong, and Entring him or themselves on Board any other of Our Ships, as aforesaid, in order to Obtain the Bounty-Money herein before Granted, We do hereby likewise Direct, Declare and Command, That such Seamen and Landmen belonging to any of Our Ships or Vessels whatsoever, as shall Absent themselves from any of the Ships or Vessels to which they shall belong, and shall Enter themselves on Board any other of Our Ships, in Order to Obtain the said Bounty-Money, shall not only lose the Wages due to them in the Ships they shall so leave, but also be severely punished according to their Demerits. And We do hereby further Declare, That if such Men in Our Service, who are or shall be Permitted to be Absent by such Tickets, as aforesaid, do not Repair on Board their respective Ships by the Time allowed by such Tickets, they shall not only be liable to be Impressed, but to suffer such further Punishment as by Law may be inflicted on them for such their Neglect. And We do hereby Require all Our Justices of the Peace, and other Magistrates, and also all Our Captains of Our Ships, and others, who shall be Imployed in Impressing Men for Our Fleet, That they take particular Care not to take up, Impress or Entertain any very Old Men or Boys, or others, who, by reason of Infirmity or otherwise, are not fitly Qualified for Our Service in Our Royal Navy, for that none such shall be received by the Officers of Our Fleet into Our Service. And whereas it has been often found, That in Time of War, great Numbers of Seamen, and also of Watermen, Bargemen and Lightermen, fit for Our Sea-Service, have left the usual Places of their Abode, and have removed themselves into Private and Obscure Places, endeavouring thereby to avoid the Publick Service when there is the greatest Occasion for them; We do hereby Require and Command all Our Justices of the Peace, Constables and other Officers, That they not only give all necessary Assistance to Our Officers Imployed in Impressing, as aforesaid; but that they do Use their utmost Endeavours to Discover, Secure and Send to some near Sea-Port Town all such Seamen, Watermen, Bargemen and Lightermen, fit for Our Service, as shall so abscond, after the said Tenth Day of February next, in order to their being put on Board Our Fleet, in Our Service; and that of what they shall do therein, they from time to time send an Account to the Commissioners of Our Navy. And We do hereby Direct the respective Officers of Our Fleet, who shall receive such Seamen, to give Receipts for them, therein expressing the Names of such Seamen, and on Board what Ship or Vessel, and the time when, and the Place where they are Received. And the Commissioners of Our Navy are hereby Directed, upon producing (at any Port where there are Officers immediately under their Directions) the said Receipts, to Pay to the Person Producing the same, Twenty Shillings for each Seaman, and Six Pence per Man for each Mile he shall be brought, if under Twenty Miles, and Ten Shillings for each Seamen that shall be brought above Twenty Miles, over and besides the said Twenty Shillings. And We do hereby Declare, That no Protection of any Men in any Ships or Vessels Imployed in the River or on the Coast, by the Commissioners of Our Navy, Ordnance, Victualling, Customs or Transportation, shall be in Force for more than Six Months from the Date thereof, except such as shall be Signed by Our Lord High Admiral, or in His Absence by His Council. And We do further Direct, That in all Protections the Persons be not only Named, but Described by their Place of Residence and Imployment, and Service for which they are Protected. And We do hereby Require and Command Our Commissioners of Our Navy, Ordnance, Victualling, Customs and Transportation, That they do not Protect more Men than their Service absolutely Requires, and to Renew all the Protections within their Reach by the End of the said Time limited for Bounty-Money, and to Revoke all Protections by them or any of them Granted respectively, so soon as the Service is over, for which the same respectively were or shall be Granted.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, the Fourteenth Day of December, 1704. In the Third Year of Our Reign.

GOD Save the QUEEN.